

Jesus is in the Temple!

Matt 21:1 (and forward)

The story relates to us the triumphant entry of Jesus into the city – the selection of transportation, the red carpet preparation and the entrance into the temple of God.

Along the way we find provision (the donkey), we find multitudes, giving worship and exultation to Jesus, we find declarations of who He was in their perception. His entrance was one of triumph, victoriously stating who He was. We also find a city put on the stir by His appearance. Some knowing who He was, many others asking “Who is He” – the answer, the prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee. Jesus came to reveal Himself to the people one last time before His death. They failed to see Him as the Messiah. It was interesting that this trip to the temple found them exactly like another trip early in His ministry – with the same results.

A major problem during this time and for today is identified in this story from Luke’s account:

Luk 19:44 And they will dash you down to the ground, you [*Jerusalem*] and your children within you; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, [*all*] because you did not come progressively to recognize and know and understand [*from observation and experience*] the time of your visitation [*that is, when God was visiting you, the time in which God showed Himself gracious toward you and offered you salvation through Christ*].

- **A failure to recognize the presence of Jesus in our lives – in any situation is a big problem.**
- **How many references in the Bible do we find God's people left out in the cold and deserted?**
- **Also the failure to recognize the season we are in.**

Here is an age-old problem – What is God doing right now and what is God saying right now. How do we find out –

Zechariah - foretold of this ride into Jerusalem many years before -

Zec 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O Daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King comes to you; He is [*uncompromisingly*] just and having salvation [*triumphant and victorious*], patient, meek, lowly, and riding on a donkey, upon a colt, the foal of a donkey.

1. Jesus entered the city as the King He was. (He is King of Kings, Lord of Lords, but was not done yet)
2. For any task God gives, provision is furnished – (With God all things are possible)
3. The foal represents the purity– it had never been ridden. (our life must be one of righteousness/Holiness)
4. The people waved palm braches – a symbol of victory and standing upright. (Declare and Decree)
5. The city was stirred up, adoration or curiosity. Many knew not who He was. (are we adoring or curious)
6. They thought of Him as a King to overturn the oppressive present government. (knowing nat. over spiritual)
7. Jesus presented Himself to the city for the last time before His death on the cross. (we must SEE Jesus)
8. He entered the city at the eastern gate. – He will come again in the eastern sky. (our hope is sure)
9. He went straight to the temple – (He lives in us – full time never leaves)
- 10. He addressed the sin in the temple. (Sin is a killer with devastating consequences)**
- 11. He declared the foundational purpose for the temple. (we must pray always – we are PRAYERS!)**
- 12. He healed the lame and the blind – (We are to do the works of Jesus and greater works)**

He entered the city 5 days before His crucifixion. (5 is the number of grace) – He was God's manifested grace to us.

Mat 21:13 And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.

Jesus went to the temple to reestablish the things He has already said –

In John 2:15 right soon after the wedding at Cana – He made a whip and drove out the sellers and money changers. The people did not heed what He said the first time around.

Jesus did three things in the temple - **We Need to do three things -**

1. Cleanse ourselves of all filthiness.

He threw out the ones who misused, abused and were cheating the people.

Jer. 7:1-11

He said you have made it a “den of thieves” – what do thieves do – steal. (this represents the nature of the devil and his schemes and ways – John 10:10 calls the devil a thief and he comes to steal, kill and destroy. - Jesus came to give us life and life more abundantly.

2Co 7:1 **Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.**

(the translators did not do a good job here – the word “spirit” should be “soul” upon salvation our spirit man needs no cleansing)

"filthiness of the spirit" is internal pollution, defilement by the internal acts of the mind, such as evil thoughts, lusts, pride, malice, envy, covetousness, and the like

2. Establish and maintain our prayer life –

We are a house of prayer (constant, continual conversation, communication with God.)

I Thes 5:17 - Pray without ceasing,(communicate with God all the time.)

3. Jesus set the example of His love by giving out to those who needed physical healing.

Mat 21:14 **And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them.**

Mat 21:15 **And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the son of David; they were sore displeased,**

Another point was this example could not be duplicated by the current run of priests.

- Our destiny in God must be fulfilled.
- Our first part is fellowship with the Father
- Then we are to do the works of Jesus and greater.

Mat 10:8 **Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.**

Jesus was always in “UNITY” with the Father’s plan, purpose, actions, thoughts, ways etc.

If God says to pray and do it together and we do not what is that? We can never achieve the unity of the Spirit or the power we need without corporate prayer

2Ch 7:14 **IF** my people, which are **called by my name**, shall **humble themselves**, and **pray**, and **seek my face**, and **turn from their wicked ways**; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. (4 things – 4 is the number of creation)

Jesus came into the city, which is symbolic and prophetic of Jesus coming into our hearts and His return to the earth.

Jesus entered the temple – we are the temple of God (I Cor 6:19)– the residence of the Holy Spirit

1. He came to fulfill His purpose – to redeem man back to God. (the Fathers will)
2. He proclaimed His house is a house of prayer. (prayer is always right)
3. He healed the lame and the blind. (destroying the works of the devil)

1. To establish His kingship or Lordship over our lives.

This is the key factor in our relationship with Jesus – His Lordship over our lives

2. Establish and continue communication with us
3. Work through us in power and demonstration

A repetitive note:

Jesus had already, about 3 years before drove the moneychangers and the sellers and buyer out of the temple with a whip – This time He used only the Word – Mankind seems to continually find his way back to the old nature if he does not do what the Word of God has said and obey God instantly, continually -